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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/715,588	11/18/2003	Freddie W. Young	16706/97928-01	4741

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Jones, Walker, Waechter, Poitevent, Carrere &
Dengre, L.L.P.
4th Floor
8555 United Plaza Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

EXAMINER

KRAMER, DEAN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3652

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,588

Applicant(s)

YOUNG, FREDDIE W.

Examiner

Dean J. Kramer

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/18/03.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

There is no clear antecedent basis for "said first gripping member" (claim 1, line 8 and claim 8, line 11) or "said second gripping member" (claim 1, line 10 and claim 8, lines 13 and 14). Further, the recitation of plural "tensioning members" in the first line of claim 5 is confusing since claims 1 and 4, from which claim 5 depends, recite only "at least one tensioning member".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3, and 7, as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Jenkins or Coley.

Jenkins and Coley show lifting devices that contain all of the structural limitations as broadly as recited in the above claims including tensioning members in the form of a ring.

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4. Claims 1-5 and 7, as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jones.

Jones shows an internal gripping device (see Fig. 1) comprising first and second gripping arms (A), first and second link members (F), and a tensioning means (I,L). In regard to claim 2, the gripping ends (C) of each arm (A) have two rearwardly facing teeth. Regarding claims 4 and 5, a central portion (L) of the tensioning means is a flexible chain.

5. Claims 1, 3, 7, and 8, as understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Soviet Patent # 206,065.

Soviet Patent # 206,065 shows a grab for handling rolls of material comprising first and second gripping arms (1), first and second link members (3), and tensioning members (4,5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2, as understood, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soviet Patent # 206,065 in view of Langston.

The gripping ends (2) of the Soviet ('065) grab do not appear to contain teeth formed thereon.

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However, it is old and well known to integrally form teeth on the gripping surface of internal gripping arms as is shown in the Langston patent at (17) to better grip the interior surface wall of a hollow tube.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrally form a series of teeth on the gripping ends (2) of the Soviet ('065) grab as taught by Langston in order to more securely grip the inner walls of a hollow roll of material.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Specification

9. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 3, line 19, it appears that the reference number "21" should be changed to --27--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Conclusion


10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Atterbury shows having gripping arms, link members, and a flexible tensioning member.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dean J. Kramer whose telephone number is (703) 308-2181. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. (7:00-5:00).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eileen Lillis can be reached on (703) 308-1113. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Dean J. Kramer 1/6/05
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3652

djk
1/6/05